

Chapter Six

Indiana Language Acquisition Assessment System (ILAAS)

The Purpose of LAS Links

CTB/McGraw-Hill's *LAS Links*® assessments are used in Indiana to determine a student's level of English proficiency. The placement test, administered upon the student's arrival in the United States, is used to determine appropriate services for the student. The annual assessment, administered during the January/February testing window, determines the student's current level of English proficiency and is used for accountability purposes.

Structure of LAS Links for 2013-2014

Testing personnel should note the following regarding the administration of the 2013-2014 LAS Links Assessments:

LAS Links consists of two assessments: a placement test and an annual assessment.

1. LAS Links Placement Test

Any student whose Home Language Survey (HLS) indicates a language other than English should be given the LAS Links Placement test. **Pre-LAS 2000** is the placement test for incoming kindergarten students; and there are five forms of the **LAS Links Placement Test** for students in K-12 each consisting of a different grade band (K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8 and 9-12). **The results from the placement test must be communicated to parents within 30 days at the start of the school year or within two weeks of arrival later in the school year.** Placement tests are scored locally. Training for administration and scoring of the placement tests is offered in August. Corporation Test Coordinators may order Placement tests from the CTB/Indiana Help Desk by calling 800-282-1132.

2. LAS Links Annual Assessment

The annual LAS Links assessment is administered in late winter each school year, preceding the Applied Skills ISTEP+ assessment window. This assessment is given to students classified as Levels 1-4 and to students who have NOT received a Level 5 classification for two consecutive data points. For the annual assessment, the speaking portion is scored locally and the other portions are submitted to CTB for scoring. The LAS Links annual assessments are grouped by grades K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8 and 9-12. **The results from the annual LAS Links assessment must be communicated to parents.** Training is offered in January for the administration and scoring of the annual assessment.

Both assessments are designed to evaluate students on listening, speaking, reading, writing, and comprehension. The placement test is used for identification and placement into English language development services; the annual LAS Links assessment is used for measuring annual growth and for determining the degree of support services needed.

For newly arrived LEP students in their first year of U.S. schooling, for **one time only**, the annual LAS Links assessment may be substituted for the English/Language Arts portion of the ISTEP+ assessment or IMAST utilizing Federal Flexibility (see *Chapter 10: Test Administration & Reporting*). This is a school

corporation-wide decision, and STNs must be submitted to the Indiana Department of Education in May as part of the DOE-LE data collection.

Additional information regarding accommodations for students with limited English proficiency can be found in *Appendices C and I*.

LAS Links Assessment Windows for 2013-2014

Window	Dates	Scoring
Placement Test	Based on student's arrival	Scored locally
Annual Assessment	January 22 – February 28, 2014	Speaking portion scored locally; other portions submitted to CTB for scoring

For additional information, please access

<http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment/las-links-english-proficiency-assessment>.